CharlesL King

05/03/00 05:50 PM

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cc: CharlesL King/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: DRAFT El PROPOSAL

----- Forwarded by CharlesL King/R4/USEPA/US on 05/03/00 05:52 PM -----



jrc6@cdc.gov 05/03/00 03:25 PM To: sxc1@cdc.gov, lavern ajanaku@mail.dnr.state.ga.us, cta@atl.mindspring.com, jkyle15@hotmail.com, CharlesL King/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

cc: Carl Blair/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: DRAFT EI PROPOSAL

HERE IS MY FIRST DRAFT OF EXPOSURE INVESTIGATION PROPOSAL FOR GRIFFIN LINE.

Sandee - please give a copy to Marvin.

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EXPOSURE INVESTIGATION PROPOSAL FOR GRIFFIN LINE COMMUNITY IN FORT VALLEY, GEORGIA

1) Can a potentially exposed population be identified? Who?

Yes. The Griffin Line Community is an neighborhood in Fort Valley, Georgia located next to a closed municipal landfill, the Vienna Street Dump. The population of this community is 811 and is 99% African-American according to 1990 census. About 500 members of this community live within 500 feet of the closed landfill and a number of homes and an apartment complex directly the boundary line of the landfill. Some of the site is now occupied by the Fort Valley Waste Water treatment facility and this area is fenced. However, the rest of the site is not fenced. See the attached map of the area.

2) Is there a data gap that precludes evaluating the public health impact on the population?



Yes. Residents have concerns that the Griffin Line Community was contaminated during the operation of the dump(approximately 1940 - 1975) by hazardous substances being transported to the dump or by the burning of waste that took place on the dump. They attribute a wide of health problems to this contamination.

In a meeting on April 25, 2000 with ATSDR staff, 13-14 Griffin Line residents described in detail how materials being transported from the Woolfolk Chemical pesticide plant and the Bluebird Bus Company to the dump were spilled along the roadside. The Woolfolk facility produced arsenic pesticides from 1925 to 1975 and formulated DDT, chlordane, dieldrin, or related pesticides from the late 40s to the mid-80s. They also related that waste materials were burnt rather than buried during many of the years that the dump operated. The smoke from the fires infiltrated many homes. Residents also related how the area was sprayed with DDT nearly every evening during the Spring and Summer to control mosquitoes and flies.

Residents are concerned that they are still being exposed to the contaminants left in the neighborhood and that their children and grandchildren are being exposed when they play on large portions of the old dump that are not fenced. The residents expressed concern that a playground that lies on the southern boundary of the dump is contaminated.

As indicated on the attached map, surface soil samples taken from six locations during an U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Site Investigation identified arsenic levels ranging from 7.6 to 930 ppm. The highest level of 930 ppm was on the fenced waste water treatment, but concentrations of 30 and 32 ppm were found in the unfenced area.

3) Can results from your proposed investigation fill this data gap?

Yes. The investigation will provide data to determine whether the areas beside the streets most used to haul waste and the playground are contaminated with arsenic and other metals and with chlorinated pesticides like chlordane.

4) What public health actions might be taken based on the results of this EI?

ATSDR would request that EPA conduct extensive sampling of the Griffin Line Community if the data indicate that there are areas contaminated by arsenic, other metals, or chlorinated pesticides at levels above ATSDR EMEGs or EPA soil screening levels. If the results do not identify significant contamination, this would provide residents with assurance that they are not currently being exposed to the contaminants tested.